

Jim Rasmussen to Direct DOE'S Environmental Assurance, Permits, and Policy Division

RICHLAND, Wash., May 26, 1995 -- Jim Rasmussen has been named Director of the Environmental Assurance, Permits, and Policy Division at the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL). Rasmussen is responsible for overseeing environmental compliance and formulating policies and strategies for attaining appropriate state and federal permits to operate Hanford Site facilities.

Rasmussen said, "I am really fortunate to have this opportunity, and I look forward to working with our regulators to streamline the regulatory process at Hanford."

A native of Sioux City, Iowa, Rasmussen received a B.A. degree in biology and chemistry from Mount Marty College in 1973. He also obtained a M.S. degree in environmental science and engineering from the University of Oklahoma in 1974.

Shortly after obtaining his master's degree, Rasmussen began his career with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Dallas, Texas, as an environmental engineer where he was responsible for water discharge permitting and enforcement.

Rasmussen accepted a position as a sanitary engineer with the Montana Water Quality Bureau in Helena, Montana, in 1976. He managed the enforcement program for the agency. In 1978, he was selected as an environmental engineer at EPA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. He coordinated effluent guidelines to regulate the organic chemical industry.

In 1980, Rasmussen transferred to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) under the U.S. Department of the Interior. Rasmussen directed environmental programs and operations with BLM in the states of New Mexico, Montana, North Dakota, and Nevada. He came to Hanford in 1989 as a physical scientist with RL. In 1992, he was named Branch Chief for the Permits and Policy Branch of the Office of Environmental Assurance, Permits, and Policy. He served in that capacity until being appointed to his current position.

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